The TATLER.

By *Isaac Bickerstaff* Esq;

Quem mala Stultitia, & quæcunq; Inscitia veri
Cæcum agit, Insanum: Chrysippi Porticus, & Grex
Autumat. Hæc Populos, hæc magnos formula Reges,
Excepto Sapiente, tenet. ——— Hor.

From *Tuesday January* 24. to *Thursday January* 26. 1709.

From my own Apartment, January 25.

THERE is a Sect of ancient Philosophers, who, I think, have left more Volumes behind them, and those better written, than any other of the Fraternities in Philosophy. It was a Maxim of this Sect, That all those who do not live up to the Principles of Reason and Virtue, are Madmen. Every one, who governs himself by these Rules, is allowed the Title of Wise, and reputed to be in his Senses; and every one in Proportion, as he deviates from them, is pronounced Frantick and Distracted. *Cicero* having chosen this Maxim for his Theme, takes Occasion to argue from it very agreeably with *Clodius*, his implacable Adversary, who had procured his Banishment. A City (says he) is an Assembly distinguished into Bodies of Men, who are in Possession of their respective Rights and Privileges, cast under proper Subordinations, and in all its Parts obedient to the Rules of Law and Equity. He then represents the Government from whence he was banished, at a Time when the Consul, Senate, and Laws, had lost their Authority, as a Commonwealth of Lunaticks. For this Reason, he regards his Expulsion from *Rome*, as a Man would being turned out of *Bedlam*, if the Inhabitants of it should drive him out of their Walls as a Person unfit for their Community. We are therefore to look upon every Man's Brain to be touched, however he may appear in the general Conduct of his Life, if he has an unjustifiable Singularity in any Part of his Conversation or Behaviour: Or if he swerves from right Reason, however common his Kind of Madness may be, we shall not excuse him for its being epidemical, it being our present Design to clap up all such as have the Marks of Madness upon them, who are now permitted to go about the Streets, for no other Reason, but because they do no Mischief in their Fits. Abundance of imaginary great Men are put in Straw to bring them to a right Sense of themselves: And is it not altogether as reasonable, that an insignificant Man, who has an immoderate Opinion of his Merits, and a quite different Notion of his own Abilities from what the rest of the World entertain, should have the same Care taken of him, as a Beggar who fancies himself a Duke or a Prince? Or, Why should a Man, who starves in the Midst of Plenty, be trusted with himself, more than he who fancies he is an Emperor in the Midst of Poverty? I have several Women of Quality in my Thoughts, who set so exorbitant a Value upon themselves, that I have often most heartily pitied them, and wished them, for their Recovery, under the same Discipline with the Pewterer's Wife. I find by several Hints in ancient Authors, that when the *Romans* were in the Height of Power and Luxury, they assigned out of their vast Dominions, an Island called *Anticyra*, as an Habitation for Madmen. This was the Bedlam of the *Roman* Empire, whither all Persons who had lost their Wits used to resort from all Parts of the World in Quest of them. Several of the *Roman* Emperors were advised to repair to this Island; but most of them, instead of listening to such sober Counsels, gave Way to their Distraction, till the People knocked them in the Head as despairing of their Cure. In short, it was as usual for Men of distempered Brains to take a Voyage to *Anticyra* in those Days, as it is in ours for Persons who have a Disorder in their Lungs to go to *Montpellier*.

The prodigious Crops of Hellebore with which this whole Island abounded, did not only furnish them with incomparable Tea, Snuff, and *Hungary* Water, but impregnated the Air of the Country with such sober and salutiferous Steams, as very much comforted the Heads, and refreshed the Senses, of all that breathed in it. A discarded Statesman, that at his first Landing appeared stark staring mad, would become calm in a Week's Time; and upon his Return Home, live easy and satisfied in his Retirement. A moaping Lover would grow a pleasant Fellow by that Time he had rid thrice about the Island; and a hair-brained Rake, after a short Stay in the Country, go Home again a composed, grave, worthy Gentleman.

I have premised these Particulars before I enter on the main Design of this Paper, because I would not be thought altogether notional in what I have to say, and pass only for a Projector in Morality. I could quote *Horace*, and *Seneca*, and some other ancient Writers of good Repute, upon the same Occasion, and make out by their Testimony, that our Streets are filled with distracted Persons; that our Shops and Taverns, private and publick Houses, swarm with them; and that it is very hard to make up a tolerable Assembly without a Majority of them. But what I have already said, is, I hope, sufficient to justifie the ensuing Project, which I shall therefore give some Account of without any further Preface.

1. It is humbly proposed, That a proper Receptacle or Habitation be forthwith erected for all such Persons as, upon due Trial and Examination, shall appear to be out of their Wits.

2. That

2. That to ſerve the preſent Exigency, the College in *Moor-Fields* be very much extended at both Ends; and that it be converted into a Square, by adding three other Sides to it.

3. That no body be admitted into theſe Three additional Sides, but ſuch whoſe Phrenſy can lay no Claim to an Apartment in that Row of Building which is already erected.

4. That the Architect, Phyſician, Apothecary, Surgeon, Keepers, Nurſes, and Porters, be all and each of them crack'd, provided that their Phrenſy does not lie in the Profeſſion or Employment to which they ſhall ſeverally and reſpectively be aſſigned.

N. B. *It is thought fit to give the foregoing Notice, that none may preſent himſelf here for any Poſt of Honour or Profit who is not duly qualified.*

5. That over all the Gates of the additional Buildings, there be Figures placed in the ſame Manner as over the Entrance of the Edifice already erected; provided, they repreſent ſuch Diſtractions only as are proper for thoſe additional Buildings; as, of an envious Man gnawing his own Fleſh, a Gameſter pulling himſelf by the Ears, and knocking his Head againſt a Marble Pillar, a covetous Man warming himſelf over a Heap of Gold, a Coward flying from his own Shadow, and the like.

Having laid down this general Scheme of my Deſign, I do hereby invite all Perſons who are willing to encourage ſo publick-ſpirited a Project, to bring in their Contributions as ſoon as poſſible, and to apprehend forthwith any Politician whom they ſhall catch raving in a Coffee-houſe, or any Free-thinker whom they ſhall find publiſhing his Diliriums, or any other Perſon who ſhall give the like manifeſt Signs of a crazed Imagination: And I do at the ſame Time give this publick Notice to all the Madmen about this great City, That they may return to their Senſes with all imaginable Expedition, leſt if they ſhould come into my Hands, I ſhould put them into a Regimen which they would not like; for if I find any one of them perſiſt in his frantick Behaviour, I will make him in a Month's Time as famous as ever *Oliver*'s Porter was.

Advertiſements.

This Day is publiſh'd,

*** Hudibras Compleat. Adorned with Cuts. Being a very correct and curious Edition of the ſaid Book. Printed in a ſmall Pocket Volume, upon extraordinary Paper, and with a new Brevier Letter, after the ſame Manner with the beſt Elzevir Editions. To which is added, Annotations to the Third Part, and a very exact Index to the whole, never before publiſhed. Printed for R. Cruſwel, J. Tonſon, T. Horne, and R. Wellington. N. B. There is lately publiſhed by John Baker a very incorrect Edition of the ſaid Book, printed upon bad Paper, and by a Perſon having no Right to the Copy thereof.

EDward Stockdale (who ſerved Mr. Roos, Her Majeſty's Engraver) that formerly lived at the May-pole in the Strand, and lately at the Corner of Half-moon-ſtreet, is now removed to Mr. Le Main's, next Door to the Blue Ball in Beauford-Buildings in the Strand, where all Gentlemen and others may have Seals curiouſly engraved, in Stone, Steel, &c.

Juſt publiſh'd,

*** Ανακρεοντος Θιυ Μελη. Anacreontis Teii Carmina. Plurimis quibus hactenus ſcatebant Mendis purgavit, turbata Metra reſtituit, Notaſque cum nova Interpretatione adjecit Willielmus Baxter. Subjiciuntur etiam duo veruſtiſſimæ Poetriæ Sapphus elegantiſſima Odaria, cum novo Commentario; item Theocriti Anacreonticum in mortuum Adonin. Editio altera, aliquanto emaculatior & elucubratior: Qua commendatur etiam Barnesii Cantabrigienſis Profeſſoris Lepidum & Bellum Ingenium, & Acumen Criticum. Cædimus, inque vicem præbemus Crura Sagittis. Vivitur hoc Pacto.--- Londinii Auguſtæ Imprimebatur Impenſis Matthæi Hawkins, proſtatque venalis ad Angelum in Area Paulina.

Mens Morning Gowns, of rich Silks, Stuffs, Calicoes, &c. (being the Goods of a Perſon that failed) to be diſpoſed of at very low Rates; may be ſeen at the Olive-Tree and Still within three Doors of Young Man's Coffee-houſe, againſt the Horſe at Charing-Croſs. The Prices being ſet on each Gown. Catalogues of the Particulars may be had at the Place of Sale.

The Certificate given to Sir William Read by the Vice-Chancellor of the Univerſity of Oxford.

THIS is to certify, That Mr. William Read, Chirurgeon and Oculiſt, hath lately Leave granted him, at the Requeſt and Recommendation of ſeveral Perſons of Quality, to vend his Styptick Water, and to ſhew the Experiment of it in Oxford; where he took off a dangerous cancerated Breaſt, without the Loſs of any Blood, immediately upon the Application of his Styptick Water. Alſo many other charitable Operations were performed by Mr. William Read during his Time in Oxford, to the great Satisfaction of the Spectators.

Wadham, Col. Sept. 16. 1689. Gilb. Ironſide, Vice-Chancellor.

Right Batavia Arrack,

TO be ſold at the Garter Coffee-houſe, the North-ſide of the Royal-Exchange, by Wholeſale or Retale.

THE Gentleman who not long ſince received a Letter by the Penny-Poſt, ſubſcribed M. N. begs the Favour of a Line, with Directions when and where he may wait on the Perſon, or ſend an agreeable Anſwer.

To be ſold,

A Very good Coach, lined with a Cathaw, fit for Town or Country. To be ſeen at Mr. Carne's at the Three Corniſh Daws over-againſt my Lord Sunderland's in Piccadilly.

THE ſo much approved and convenient new-faſhioned Bird-Glaſſes, and very curious ornamental new-faſhioned Bird-Cages, which effectually prevent the Litterings of the Seeds into the Rooms; alſo printed Directions how to keep Canary-Birds, all Manner of Bird-ſeeds, Pullies, Lines, and Counterweights, Scrapers to clean the Perches, &c. at reaſonable Rates, by J. Meyer, Inventor of the German Bird-Cages, in Long-Acre at the Sign of the Bird-Cage near the Wood-yard over-againſt James-ſtreet.

*** There is now in the Preſs, and will be publiſhed and ready to be delivered to the Subſcribers by the 12th of February next, Sir Orlando Bridgman's Conveyances, with large Additions, and a new Table. Subſcriptions will be taken in any Time before the publiſhing of the ſaid Book, by the Undertaker J. Walthoe in the Middle-Temple-Cloyſters. For whom were lately printed, The new Retorna Brevium, in 8vo. The Impartial Lawyer, in 8vo. The Rules and Orders of the Common Pleas, in 8vo. and the modern Conveyancer, or Conveyancing Improved. In 3 Vol. in 8vo.

Juſt publiſh'd,

*** A Liſt of the principal Officers, Civil and Military, of Great Britain, for the Year 1710. on a broad Sheet of Paper. Printed for A. Roper, and ſold by J. Morphew near Stationers-Hall.

*** The Hiſtory of the Reign of Queen Anne, digeſted into Annals. Being the moſt compleat and impartial Account of all Affairs, Civil and Military, both at Home and Abroad, ſince Her Majeſty's happy Acceſſion to the Throne. With great Variety of ſecret Memoirs, Speeches, and other Curioſities not elſewhere Printed. In Seven Volumes, Octavo. To be had in Sets or ſingle. Printed for, and ſold by, Thomas Ward in the Inner-Temple-Lane. Note, the 8th Volume is now in the Preſs, and will be publiſhed with all Speed.

WHereas on Saturday the 14th of this Inſtant January, there was taken away from the Croſs-Keys in Gracechurch-ſtreet, a Pair of Sheets, mark'd H. K. and a ſmall Pewter Diſh; and on Saturday following, the 20th Inſtant, one Meſopotamia Calico Gown and Petticoat, Scarlet Ground, flowered with white Flowers, green Sprigs, and lined with a green Mantua Silk, the Petticoat lined with red and white mixed Stuff; one fine black and white Norwich Mantua and Petticoat; one black Tabby Mantua, lined with black Silk; one white Cloth Petticoat. If offered to be pawned, ſold, dyed, or diſpoſed of, you are deſired to ſtop the Goods and Perſon, and to give Notice thereof forthwith to Mrs. Keys at the ſaid Inn, and ſhall receive Three Guinea's, or in Proportion for the Goods diſcover'd.

SIR Theodore Mayern's Opiate for the Teeth; makes them clean and white as Ivory, tho' never ſo black and rotten, faſtens and preſerves them from the Tooth-Ach, being an excellent Thing for preventing and killing the Scurvy; the Quantity of a large Pea rubbed on the Teeth with your Finger every Morning faſting, waſhed off with clean Water, until you have uſed one of the largeſt Boxes, which will be ſufficient, unleſs greatly troubled with the Scurvy; and then may uſe more as Occaſion requires. Price of the largeſt Boxes 2 s. 6 d. the leſſer 1 s. 3 d. Sold at Mr. Garret's under the Royal Exchange; at John's Coffee-houſe in Swithin's-Alley near the Royal Exchange; at Mr. Jackſon's, a Toyſhop, at the Corner of Wood-ſtreet in Cheapſide; at Mrs. Lucas's, a Toyſhop at the Plough in the New Exchange in the Strand; at the Bell at the Weſt End of St. Paul's; at the Comb under St. Dunſtan's Church, Fleet-ſtreet; at Will's Coffee-houſe in Scotland-yard-Gate; and at Mrs. Brecknock's, Milliner, at the upper End of St. James's-ſtreet Piccadilly.